

## THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC

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JANUARY CIRCULATION.

W. R. Carr, Business Manager of The St. Louis Republic, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the daily St. Louis Republic printed during the month of January, 1901, all in regular editions, was as per schedule below:

Copies	Date	Copies
81,470	17	73,880
76,140	18	73,990
75,780	19	76,840
74,860	20	90,790
80,150	21	73,470
90,735	22	74,050
73,620	23	74,060
74,680	24	73,890
74,320	25	73,910
73,400	26	77,970
74,120	27	92,840
76,880	28	74,070
93,345	29	74,240
74,090	30	74,190
75,230	31	74,690
73,460		

Total for the month.....2,397,380

Least all copies spotted in printing, left over or filed.....8,710

Net number distributed.....2,397,631

Average daily distribution.....74,439

And said W. R. Carr further says that the number of copies returned or reported unsold during the month of January was 10.5 per cent.

W. R. CARR.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of January, 1901.

J. F. PARISH.

Notary Public, City of St. Louis, Mo. My term expires April 25, 1901.

REGISTER.

Now that the Democratic party has named a ticket which stands for the best elements in the community as opposed to the gang in control of municipal affairs, every citizen should place himself in a position to cast his vote for this ticket.

To be qualified voters citizens must put their names on the poll books. Those who were not registered last fall or who have changed their addresses since that time cannot exercise the franchise without first having their names placed on the registration books before the spring election day.

Registration may take place in the Election Commissioners' office in the City Hall until March 9. It is highly desirable that confusion be avoided by attending to the matter at the City Hall.

There is no doubt that the worst elements will have their names inscribed on the poll books. Heeders make it their business to register. They do not forget to prepare for effective work on election day.

No citizen who believes in good government should neglect doing the one thing that will permit him to cast his ballot. Register; if not to-day, as soon as possible.

HELP THE PARTY.

Democratic majorities in the two houses at Jefferson City can materially assist in the overthrow of Ziegenhain.

The reform campaign in St. Louis will be strengthened by conservatism in the Legislature and it will be emboldened by thoughtless measures aimed at business interests.

Republican machine managers in St. Louis will make the most of the capital which may be afforded by the cranks and madmen in and about the Legislature. These mischievous persons may be Republicans themselves, but the odium will be thrown upon the Democrats.

The Republic has never believed that this Legislature would rush into a destructive policy. But the session has already produced more than one menacing proposition. The Collins school bill is an example. The indulgence of the Senate to that attack of private avarice upon the public schools of St. Louis has aroused suspicion and alarm. The favorable report of the committee has alienated hundreds of voters from the Democratic city candidates. Many of these voters cannot be brought back.

Democrats in St. Louis ask from the majority party at Jefferson City exceptional care in dealing with questions affecting the interests of this city.

THE BILLION BEHEMOTH.

Although the figures are somewhat staggering in their vast volume, there is really no ground for surprise at Wall Street's estimate that Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan will personally make a profit of over \$25,000,000 on his deal to consolidate the great steel industries of this country.

You must remember that this is a billion-dollar trust which this man is organizing. Pause just a moment and try to realize what a billion dollars means in its possibilities of power and vast enrichment for the men who deal in such colossal amounts. When you turn to the \$25,000,000 which Mr. Morgan is thought to have cleared at the very outset of the deal, your original feeling of surprise will have vanished. It's a mere bagatelle, this little \$25,000,000.

And, dismissing this initial race-off with a wave of the hand, turn again to the contemplation of the steel "combine" which represents the consolidation of two billion dollars for monopoly purposes. What is not possible to such a combine? What chance may labor or individual manufacturer have against it?

ers possess against this behemoth? What show of fair prices, regulated by the law of supply and demand, will the buyer of this trust's products find in the monopolized markets? These questions are worth while thinking over. The billion-dollar Steel Trust is so big that it casts an ominous shadow across the face of the entire industrial world.

FAVORED FOR CAUSE.

It would have been surprising, indeed, if the ticket nominated by the Democratic City Convention had failed to receive the prompt and unqualified endorsement of the element of the local citizenship which demands good government during the World's Fair period.

The ticket is so thorough and sincere a concession to this sentiment that Republicans and Democrats alike unite in commendation of its worthiness. It is rightly described as the best ticket ever nominated in St. Louis. It is clearly representative of all that is most to be desired as insuring an able and honest administration of municipal affairs. It cannot but appeal with irresistible potency to every voter who has at heart the best interests of the city in which he lives.

From the head of the ticket straight down to the name of the last candidate thereon, proof is found that the local Democracy was actuated by a genuine determination to meet the wishes of the people of St. Louis in the essentials of clean nominations and the elimination of ring influences as controlling party action. The Wells ticket is pre-eminently a people's good-government ticket. It stands as proof of the truth that the local Democratic organization has plainly recognized and dutifully obeyed the will of the people. In the completeness of this proof is found the best of reasons for the election of the local Democratic ticket by a rousing majority.

It is now in order for the local Republican organization to place its candidates in the field. The Ziegenhain machine controls this organization. The machine gangsters are hungry for the spoils that would be possible to grafters and bootlickers during the World's Fair period. Their machine will not consent to forego this prospect of loot and booty. Even if it puts up a figurehead candidate for Mayor the rest of the ticket will be composed of machine gangsters. The chances are that even its nominee for the mayoralty will be an "adaptive" Ziegenhainite. The local elections in April will be a fight between the Ziegenhain gang and the friends of good government. Every decent and self-respecting citizen who is solicitous for the welfare and the good name of St. Louis should align himself against the machine.

UP TO THE LEGISLATORS.

Governor Dockery's message to the State Legislature, again urging the necessity for franchise-tax legislation as a duty placed upon that body by a platform pledge of the Democratic party, should inevitably result in the passage of such a law as is demanded.

There is no escaping the logic of the existing situation. The Missouri Legislature is in honor bound to the enactment of "a just, fair and equitable law" which shall impose a tax upon all franchises conveying special privileges. There is no plea possible in justification of its failure to enact such a law. In the event of failure the State Legislature will stand self-condemned before the people.

Governor Dockery makes very clear to Missouri legislators exactly what the people expect them to do in this important matter. They are not required to tax the mere right or privilege of doing business. But they are expected and required to impose a just tax upon the special privilege of exercising public functions, using public property and managing public utilities. And, as Governor Dockery also points out, there is no constitutional obstacle to prevent the classification of objects for purposes of legislation, provided such classification is a natural and not merely an arbitrary one.

The people fail to see the tremendous difficulties claimed by some legislators as attendant upon the framing and passage and enforcement of an equitable franchise-tax law. They see, instead, a simple task constituting the performance of a simple duty. All the talk that has been indulged in with regard to the certain unconstitutionality of any form of franchise taxation save that which taxes every franchise, is utter bosh, and the people know it as such. They call upon the Forty-first General Assembly of Missouri to pass a just and fair franchise-tax law. They rightly hold that if this is not done it will be because the Forty-first General Assembly of Missouri is owned by the lobby. What does the Legislature propose to do under these conditions?

ELECTION LAWS.

Ex-Governor Stone has said in two interviews that the election law of 1895 was better than the present law.

In what respects? That law provided precinct registration, but did not provide a central office for general registration. There may be a difference of opinion about which is the more desirable method; but, certainly, the opportunity for fraud is wider where the bulk of registration is hastily done in the precincts. The difficulty of purging the lists and of watching for frauds is greater.

In the act of 1895 the Circuit Court was charged with the appointment of judges and clerks. This is a burden which should not be imposed upon the judiciary. Party pressure should not be one of the things with which the Circuit Court is forced to contend.

Nor is it wise to give the appointment of judges and clerks wholly into the hands of party committees. The reason is obvious, and experience agrees with the reasoning.

The Nesbit law may need amending. It does not definitely compel revision by the Board of the deputy's acts. In order to keep the office open and available for citizens it is necessary that the deputy have power to administer the law. But it would be better if the Board were required to review and ratify all his proceedings.

There is a defect in allowing too much latitude during the days of supplemental registration at the office. In trying to give every citizen a chance to register the law permits a certain amount of registration so late that there is practically no opportunity whatever for revision of the late additions and for detection of fraud.

Whether the minority member of the Board should have absolute power of naming Republican judges and clerks is doubtful. Such power, if he were an intense factionist, might give him too much control of affairs within his party. On the other hand, it might be well to lodge in his hands by law, as is already done by courtesy of the Board, the privilege of making out the list of judges and clerks for his party, subject to the approval of the entire Board.

Another improvement—and the most necessary one—would be provision for careful scrutiny by party representatives of the general registration as it proceeds, or at frequent intervals.

On the whole, The Republic does not see the superiority of the act of 1895. Most of the wise provisions of that law were incorporated into the Nesbit law. In several important respects the Nesbit law is the better.

Frauds may be committed under any law. No election law ever was or ever can be devised under which extensive frauds could not be committed by bad officials. Examining the Nesbit law section by section shows that it is a good law. With a few amendments it would be as complete in its precautions against fraud as the legislation of any State.

Machinery for the registration of voters and for conducting elections will no doubt be improved from year to year through the experience of the States. But it is not improvement to jump every two years backward or forward from one method to another without a justification based upon careful comparison of practical results.

NAVAL ACTIVITY.

Fourteen warships were contracted for last month by the United States, to be completed in one year.

Letting of the contracts brings the total of warships now under construction for the Government to sixty-one. Of the fourteen ships, five will be battleships, named Georgia, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Virginia. Three of the battleships will have a displacement of 15,000 tons and two of 14,000 tons. Three of the six armored cruisers will have a displacement of 13,800 tons and three of 13,400 tons. The armored cruisers will be named West Virginia, Nebraska, California, Maryland, South Dakota and Colorado. The other three vessels to be built will be protected cruisers with a displacement of 10,000 tons each, or more than any of the protected cruisers now in service. They will be named St. Louis, Milwaukee and Charleston.

Hulls and machinery for the fourteen warships will cost \$49,944,000. The total cost for hulls and machinery of the sixty-one ships now under construction will be \$80,954,116. The gunboat Nashville, which visited St. Louis, has a displacement of 1,371 tons and cost \$280,000. The immensity of the contracts may be judged by comparison.

At no time has the United States Government been so active in constructing ships. If the present gain is kept we shall soon be the chief naval power of the world, even though Great Britain has such a lead. That country has now seventy-three battleships, France thirty-two, Russia twenty-three, Germany seventeen and Italy fifteen, while the United States have eighteen, including those under contract. The United States have proportionately a greater number of cruisers than any other country.

It may also be of interest to know that Spain has left from the wreck one first-class battleship and two third-class battleships to head its small fleet. The quality of Spain's navy may be judged from the fact that Spain was unrepresented at Queen Victoria's funeral because the one first-class battleship was compelled to put back to shore on account of a breakdown in machinery.

It is suggested to members of the St. Louis Republican Club that they will save a great deal of useless worry by frankly acknowledging that their chief mistake lies in the fact that they do not call themselves a Wells club.

Every citizen who indorses the selection of good men pledged to work for good government should see that his name is on the registration books so that he can vote on April 2.

Democracy's nominations for local office during the World's Fair period prove that the party is earnestly solicitous for the best interests of the World's Fair city.

Again the Sugar Trust is dictating President McKinley's policy—and we all remember that what the Sugar Trust said went in the matter of the Porto Rican tariff bill.

Somehow or other we don't hear so much Republican talk now about the factional discussion in the local Democracy which they "saw" so plainly a few days ago.

It is the American people who must pay Pierpont Morgan's \$25,000,000 broker's fees and also the big dividends on the stock of the billion-dollar Steel Trust.

Missouri's \$100,000 exhibit at the Buffalo Exposition of 1901 will suggest many bright ideas for her \$1,000,000 exhibit at the St. Louis World's Fair of 1903.

Only one element has been neglected in the make-up of the Democratic city ticket. It is refreshing to know that the one element is the bad element.

Indiana and Texas are running a neck-and-neck race in the effort to have the biggest oil gusher. The Standard Oil Company will referee.

And now it's up to the Ziegenhain machine to nominate an "adaptive" man for the Mayoralty race against Mr. Wells.

Ziegenhain's city ticket won't be nominated until the eleventh hour—but the people want but one swipe at it, anyway.

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Julian Ralph.

Mr. Le Gallienne, the famous English poet and philosopher, is furnishing to The Republic interesting descriptions of the Hamilton trial at Minneapolis. Mr. Julian Ralph, traveler and journalist, well known for his clever descriptive work and short stories, described by cable for The Republic, Victoria's funeral and attendant ceremonies, Queen Wilhelmina's wedding, and this morning, he reports the opening of the English Parliament by King Edward.

Valencia, Spain, Feb. 14.—Rioters took the Jesuit College by assault yesterday. The doors were broken in, and the police, on charging, were received with a storm of stones. One person was killed and numbers were wounded.

S. p. m.—A Cabinet crisis is looming up. It appears that Senor Garcia Alix, Minister of Public Instruction, and Senor Sanchez Toca, Minister of Public Works, at today's council, disapproved of the declaration of martial law for Madrid.

General Azcaraga, the Premier, will this evening submit the question of confidence of the Cabinet to the Queen Regent.

The authorities, disturbed by the serious disorders of the night, decided no longer to permit the populace to have free rein. When Madrid awoke it found itself under military rule. A proclamation was posted announcing the enforcement of martial law in consequence of the inability of the civil authorities to cope with the disturbances.

Weyler Controls the City.

Mounted troops patrolled the city and occupied every public square. A demonstration toward the palace, on account of the wedding, was thus nipped in the bud.

Immense crowds surrounded the palace during the ceremony, but not a word of disrespect was uttered. The public did not participate in the wedding in any way. There was no public fête of any character connected with it.

After the ceremony the Mayor issued an appeal to the populace, asking for calmness and confidence in the "good sense and courtesy of the inhabitants of Madrid to allow nothing further to occur that would compel the rigorous employment of martial law."

General Weyler now holds the safety of the city in his hands. He has issued a proclamation prohibiting the gathering of groups. Any one found insulting or injuring the troops by word or deed will be tried by court-martial. Parents or guardians permitting children to roam the streets will be fined 125 pesetas. Military subjects on furlough who take part in disturbances will be court-martialed. Persons injuring railways or other means of communication by persons interfering with or setting workmen will also be court-martialed.

As a result of the strong position taken by General Weyler and the prestige of the proclamation, the city has been without disturbance all day.

It is rumored that the Cabinet will meet this afternoon to consider the situation. The Countess of Caserta will leave Madrid tonight. There is a report in circulation that the Prince and Princess will accompany the Countess to France, but this lacks confirmation.

All together, there were about 100 arrests Wednesday night. In several streets the rioters were fired upon, and the carriage of the Brazilian Minister, under the belief that it contained a member of the Government.

The judges then chose Miss Natalie Gessel as first maid of honor and Miss Stella Gessel as second maid of honor.

The grand march was commenced about 10:20 o'clock and the masqueraders marched around the hall several times to give the judges an opportunity to select the ladies whom the revelers wished to honor. That their choice was a happy one was evidenced by the applause that greeted their selection.

The queen and her maids were drawn around the hall in a chariot by six little girls clad in white. The chariot stopped in the center of the hall, when the queen and her maids showered its occupants with confetti.

Several hundred persons attended the ball and they were costumed attractively. Some of the costumes were quite elaborate, especially that of the queen and her attendants. Miss Overstolz represented an "American Beauty."

She wore an Empire gown of watered silk, with a long train embroidered with American Beauties. She carried a large cluster of the roses. Miss Gessel's costume represented the decorations of a Christmas tree and Miss Basseur represented a "flame."

The hall was prettily decorated, and the musicians, who occupied the stage, were screened from view by a hedge of shrubbery.

The queen and her maids were chosen by a committee composed of Mesdames Charles Ehlermann and Otto Stille and Messrs. Thomas Stock, E. J. Jester and Joseph Manley.

Among the ladies in attendance were:

Misses—Lillie Mohr, Emma Schlossstein, Louise McIntire, Carrie Manley, Grace Green.

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